interface [comprises means for providing] includes a set of virtual phone data structures [for] to represent[ing] the state of a phone as known to the telephone switch at any given time.

3. (Amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein said [means for providing a] virtual phone generic configurable interface [comprises means for providing] includes a virtual phone application program interface [for] to provid[ing]e data communication between said telephone switch and said communication device.

4. (Amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein said [means for providing a] virtual phone generic configurable interface [comprises means for] includes a component to provid[ing]e a communications protocol for the transfer of phone control information between said telephone switch and said communication device.

5. (Amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein said [means for providing a] virtual phone generic configurable interface comprises:

a) [means for providing] a set of virtual phone data structures [for] to represent[ing] the state of a phone as known to the telephone switch at any given time; and

b) [means for providing] a program interface [for] to access[ing] said data structures.

6. (Amended) A system according to claim 5, wherein said [means for providing a] program interface [for] to access[ing] said data structures comprises a virtual phone application

program interface [for] to provid[ing]e data communication between said set of virtual phone data structures and said switch and said communication device.

7. (Amended) In a telephone communication system comprising at least one telephone switch, at least one telephone and a computer [for] to process[ing] applications related to the operation of said telephone switch and said telephone: [means for providing] a virtual phone generic configurable interface to serv[ing]e as a protocol interpreter between protocols of said telephone switch and protocols of said applications to convert the protocols of said telephone switch and the protocols of said application into a common format to enable communication between said telephone switch and said telephone.

8. (Amended) A system according to claim 7, wherein said [means for providing a] virtual phone generic interface comprises:

a) [an internal virtual phone application program interface for providing data communication between said] a set of virtual phone data structures to represent the state of a phone as known to the [and said] telephone switch at any given time [and said telephone]; and

b) [means for providing] a program interface [for] to access[ing] said data structures; and

c) [means for providing] a protocol [for accessing] to establish communication between said computer and said data structures.

9. (Amended) A system according to claim 8, wherein said [means for providing a] program interface [for] to access[ing] said data structures comprises:

a) an internal virtual phone application program interface [for] to provid[ing]e data communication between said set of virtual phone data structures and said telephone switch and said telephone; and

b) an external virtual phone application program interface [for] to provid[ing]e data communication between said [external] set of virtual phone [application program interface] data structures and said computer.

10. (Amended) A system according to claim 9, further including a communications protocol [for] to provid[ing]e communication between said external virtual phone application program interface and said computer.

Please cancel claims 11-14.

Please rewrite claims 15-19 in amended form as follows:

15. (Amended) A method for providing communication in a system comprising at least one telephone switch and at least one communication device, said method comprising [the steps of]:

a) providing a virtual phone generic configurable interface to serve as a protocol interpreter of the protocol of said telephone switch; and

b) utilizing said virtual phone generic configurable interface to convert the protocol of said telephone switch and the protocols of applications associated with the operation of said telephone switch and said communication device into a common format to enable communication between said telephone switch and said communication device.

16. (Amended) A method according to claim 15, wherein said [step of] providing a virtual phone generic configurable interface comprises providing a set of virtual phone data structures for representing the state of a phone as known to the telephone switch at any given time.

17. (Amended) A method according to claim 15, wherein said [step of] providing a virtual telephone generic configurable interface comprises providing a virtual phone application program interface for providing data communication between said telephone switch and said communication device.

18. (Amended) A method according to claim 15, wherein said [step of] providing a virtual phone generic configurable interface comprises:

a) providing a set of virtual phone data structures for representing the state of a phone as known to the telephone switch at any given time; and

b) providing a program interface for accessing said structures.

19. (Amended) A method according to claim 18, wherein said [step of] providing a program interface for accessing said data

structures comprises providing a virtual phone application program interface for providing data communication between said set of virtual phone data structures and said switch and said communication device.

Please cancel claims 20-28.

Please rewrite claims 29 and 30 in amended form as follows:

29. (Amended) In a communication system comprising at least one communication switch and at least one communication device: a media control proxy to serv[ing]e as a gateway between said communication switch and said communication device to bridge any gap in communication protocols between said communication switch and said communication device [thereby] and to convert said communication protocols to a common format to enabl[ing]e communication between said communication switch and said communication device.

30. (Amended) A system according to claim 29, wherein said media control proxy includes [means for] a component to converting a fixed control protocol of an original connection between said communication switch and said communication device to a communications method for supporting any given communication device.

Please rewrite claims 32-39 in amended form as follows:

32. (Amended) A system according to claim 31, wherein said media control proxy includes [means for] a component to pass[ing] through data on said first and second data bearer channels.

33. (Amended) A system according to claim 31, wherein said media control proxy includes [means for] a processor to process[ing] information on said first and second control channels for conversion to a protocol understood by said communications device.

34. (Amended) A method for providing communication in a system comprising at least one communication switch and at least one communication device, said method comprising [the steps of]:

a) providing a media control proxy to serve as a gateway between said communication switch and said communication device to bridge any gap in communication protocols between said communication switch and said communication device and to convert said communication protocols to a common format; and

b) utilizing said media control proxy to enable communication between said communication switch and said communication device.

35. (Amended) A method according to claim 34, wherein said [step of] providing a media control proxy comprises connecting a fixed control protocol of an original connection between said communication switch and said communication device to a communications method for supporting any given communication device.

36. (Amended) A method according to claim 34, wherein said [step of] providing a media control proxy comprises passing through bearer channel data between said communication switch and said communication device.

37. (Amended) A method according to claim 34, wherein said [step of] providing a media control proxy comprises processing control information from said communication switch for conversion to a protocol understood by said communication device.

38. (Amended) A method according to claim 34, wherein said [step of] providing a media control proxy comprises interpreting control information received from said communication switch and maintaining the state of the communication device as defined by the communication switch.

39. (Amended) A method according to claim 34, wherein said [step of] providing a media control proxy comprises transmitting data to said communication switch on a control channel between said media control proxy and said communication switch in a protocol native to said communication switch so that said communication switch interprets a message from said media control proxy as a message from said communication device.

Respectfully submitted,

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